ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #61 Summer Announcement #54, Subdistricts 6-C Personal Use Fishing Closure

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Chinook salmon run is poor. The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 104,000 Chinook salmon through July 17 is well below the historical average of 145,700 for this date, and is also below the average passage estimates at this point for late run years, of approximately 130,700.

Consistent with preseason management strategies, subsistence fishing periods have been cancelled in Districts 1-5 and similar actions are being implemented in Subdistrict 6-C. In an effort to meet Chinook salmon escapement goals in the Chena and Salcha rivers, it is warranted to close personal use fishing at this time.

Subdistricts 6-C (from the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River): This area includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha. The personal use salmon fishing period in Subdistrict 6-C scheduled to open at 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 20, is cancelled and personal use fishing will remain closed until further notice in an effort to conserve Chinook salmon. The department will notify fishermen concerning the next personal use salmon fishing period and schedule for Subdistrict 6-C once the need to conserve Chinook salmon is over.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates are available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks); in Fairbanks, call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Fairbanks ADF&G office at (907) 459-7274.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.